

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the **PATENT APPLICATION** of:

Nishiyama et al.

Application No.: 10/725,791

Confirmation No.: 3322

Filed: December 2, 2003

For: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS
AND IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD FOR
CLASSIFYING IMAGES INTO ONE OF A
PLURALITY OF CATEGORIES, AND
SELECTING AND DESIGNATING A
PREDETERMINED IMAGE FROM AMONG
IMAGES BELONGING TO AT LEAST ONE
DESIGNATED CATEGORY (AS AMENDED)

Group: 2173

Examiner: Haoshian Shih

Our File: IPO-P1881

Date: April 6, 2009

**REPLY PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.114
ACCOMPANYING REQUEST FOR CONTINUED
EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL**

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Reply is being timely filed in response to the Final Office Action dated January 23, 2009. A Request for Continued Examination (RCE) is filed concurrently herewith.

Please amend the application without prejudice or disclaimer as follows: